(b) and (c) No, Sir. As per the Section 10 A of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 and the Regulations framed thereunder any medical institution desirous of opening a course in Paediatric surgery may do so provided they fulfil the minimum requirements laid down in the Regulations of the Medical Council of India.

Additional Grant to Jharkhand for Treatment of Cancer

1421. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cancer patients in the State of Jharkhand as on date;

(b) whether Government are aware that the majority of population in this newly created State being tribal and poverty stricken, cost of treatment of cancer is beyond their reach;

(c) if so, whether Government have introduced any scheme to supplement the efforts of State Government to provide cancer treatment by providing additional grants for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the amount released this year to the State for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) There is no Population Based Cancer Registry in Jharkhand. However, based on data from urban population based cancer registries functioning under the National Cancer Registry Programme of ICMR, an estimated 18,700 new cases of cancer would occur in the State of Jharkhand during the year 2001.

(b) and (c) This Ministry is running National Cancer Control Programme under which assistance is provided for spreading awareness, diagnosis, treatment, research etc. as per details given in the Statement (*See* below). In the Government Hospitals/Medical Colleges/Government supported Regional Cancer Centres, a large number of poor patients are either being treated free of cost or at nominal charges for diagnostic and therapeutic procedures involved in cancer treatment. In addition to above this Ministry has a scheme namely National Illness Assistance Fund under which financial assistance is provided to people living below the poverty line suffering from serious diseases including Cancer.

(d) During the current financial year an amount of Rs. 2.29 crores had been sanctioned to State Government of Jharkhand for Development of Oncology Wing in Rajendra Medical College, Ranchi and Patliputra Medical College, Dhanbad.

Statement

National Cancer Control Programme

There are various schemes for which central assistance is provided to the State Governments/Institutions. The schemes are as under:

Development of Oncology Wing

This scheme is available only for Government Medical Colleges to fill up the geographical gaps in the detection and treatment of cancer in the country. Financial assistance up to Rs 2.00 crores can be provided to an Institute under the scheme for purchase of listed equipments. This is a one-time grant.

Setting up of Cobalt Therapy Unit

Financial assistance up to Rs. 1.50 crore is provided to State Government for setting up of Cobalt Theraphy Unit in Government institutions. This is a one-time grant.

An amount of Rs. 1.00 crore is also provided for Cobalt Therapy Unit to the Non- Governmental Organisations on the specific recommendations of the State Government. This is a one-time grant.

Voluntary Organisation Scheme

In the scheme up to Rs. 5.00 lakhs is provided to the Voluntary Organisations for undertaking health education and early detection activities in cancer on the specific recommendations of the State Government.

District Cancer Control Programme

A scheme for district project (duration-five years) for health education, detection and pain relief measures under National Cancer Control Programme was initiated during the year 1990-91. In this schme, financial assistance of Rs. 15.00 lakhs is provided to the State Government/UT administration for each district selected under the scheme with a provision of Rs. 10.00 lakhs per annum for each district for the remaining four years of the project period. After five years, the project is to be taken over by the State Government.

Regional Cancer Centres

This Ministry has recognised 17 Regional Cancer Centres in different States and an amount of Rs. 75.00 lakhs annually is provided. These RCCs extend treatment facilities and conduct research in the field of cancer.